

May I remind readers that the vacated larval cones are conspicuous as long as the leaves remain on the trees. The season for searching for new localities of *rufipennella* is therefore from June, when the larva starts feeding, until late October when the leaves fall.—A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex. 18.ix.1972.

FURTHER NOTES ON *STENOPTILIA SAXIFRAGAE* FLETCHER.—Last year I wrote a short note (*Ent. Record*, 83: 358) about the discovery of *S. saxifragae* in a garden at Sheffield. Last autumn a new occupant took over the tenancy of the house and, as a result of his intention to clear a good deal of the saxifrage from the garden. I removed three patches of the plant to my own garden at Holloway. During the winter months, no further attention was paid to the plants until I discovered seven small larvae on terminal shoots on 16th April, which prompted me to remove a piece of saxifrage, approximately one foot square, into my greenhouse.

This brought about a rapid acceleration of the growth of the larvae and on 6th May, 23 were noted on this small piece of the food-plant. At this date there was already a considerable disparity in size and coloration of the larvae, the largest being 10 mm and the smallest 2 mm in length. They were clearly visible whilst feeding on the terminal shoots, and when small were pale green with dark red longitudinal lines and spots upon the body. As they grew larger, the amount of red markings diminished and when full-fed the larvae were pale green with a faint red line down the middle of the back, flanked by two yellow lines.

The first pupa was discovered hanging from the foliage on 17th May, six more on 29th May and others at varying dates afterwards. At this time there were larvae still in their initial stages of growth to be seen on the plants. The first two moths emerged on 7th June and up to the 19th June, sixteen moths had emerged, before I passed the tray of food-plant to Brian Elliot, who also obtained a series from it.

The plants in my garden appeared to contain few larvae, for only odd ones were noted from 21st May, and the presence of dozens of black ants foraging among the plants made it seem unlikely that many would attain the perfect state. However, on 22nd July, three moths were attracted to the light from the kitchen window and others were seen on 8th, 19th and 20th August. It remains to be seen whether the moth will continue to thrive in its new habitat, but it appears to adapt quite readily, and I was pleased to see four moths in their original habitat in Sheffield, despite a considerable reduction of food-plant, on 13th August.

As a footnote, I would like to record that a fellow entomologist, Mr B. Statham, took two moths in his garden at Matlock in his m.v. trap on 20th July and no less than twelve on 22nd July.—F. HARRISON, 24 Church Street, Holloway, nr. Matlock, Derbys. 26.ix.1972.